



DEXTER AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 305
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98109
206/285-5630 FAX: 206/283-7627
<http://www.intersea-seafood.com>

8144 '99 APR 19 P1:47

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE : Molluscan Shellfish Treatment

Gentlemen:

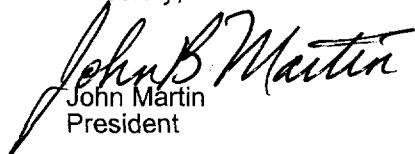
It has come to my attention that the Center for Science in the Public Interest(CPSI) has petitioned FDA to require all molluscan shellfish to be post-harvest treated prior to sale. We are opposed to such an action as it will lessen the choices consumers have for pure, unadulterated seafood.

American consumers deserve to have a choice in purchasing quality shellfish products. Changing current regulations regarding oyster and shellfish processing will by design limit choices for raw unprocessed oysters by consumers. It will also add a cost which will negatively impact consumers in the way of higher prices for the products.

Our company supports education efforts, public and private, which advise potentially high risk molluscan shellfish consumers to avoid raw product and request that the products be fully cooked prior to serving. This will be preferable to another layer of regulations to enforce.

Thank you for carefully considering all the issues before taking any unrealistic action.

Sincerely,


John Martin
President

98P-0504

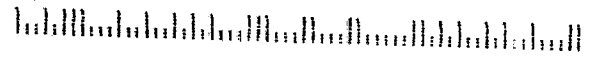
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Intersea
FISHERIES WEST, INC.



Documents Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food & Drug Administration
Department of Health & Human Services
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20853-7900



701 DEXTER AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 305

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98109

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